GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
LAW AND JUSTICE
LOK SABHA

STARRED QUESTION NO:431
ANSWERED ON:04.05.2007
EVENING COURTS
Gadhavi Shri Pushpdan Shambhudan;Patel Shri Harilal Madhavjibhai

Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government have received proposals/suggestions from some of the State Governments for starting Evening Courts for speedy disposal of pending cases in the Courts; and

(b) if so, the details thereof alongwith the reaction of the Government thereon?

Answer

MINISTER OF THE STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LAW & JUSTICE (SHRI H.R. BHARDWAJ)

(a) & (b): A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) &(b) OF THE LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO. 431

(a) Only the Government of Gujarat after the `Evening Courts` were launched in that State requested the Central Government for a special grant of Rs. 5 crore. Administration of Justice being primarily a State subject and also because there is no scheme in this regard for giving central assistance, the request of Government of Gujarat has not been agreed to. No other State Government has formally written to the Central Government for launching Evening Courts.

(b) The matter of introduction of shift system in subordinate courts,among other things, was discussed in the Conference of Chief Ministers and Chief Justices of High Courts held in New Delhi on April 8, 2007. In that Conference all States had welcomed the introduction of shift system in subordinate courts and promised to work in that direction. It was decided in that Conference that evening/morning courts be set-up, wherever found feasible, and appropriate cases including those involving petty offences be transferred to such courts. Either retired Judicial Officers be re-employed or serving Judicial Officers be given suitable incentive, to preside over these Courts. Government has requested the State Governments to take action on the above mentioned decision, as also on the other decisions of the Conference, in consultation with their respective High Courts. The Government has also requested the Chief Justices of the High Courts to take action in consultation with the State Governments.